

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the discussion below.

Claims 5-6 and 9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as anticipated by Tominaga et al., while claims 7-8 and 10 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but otherwise indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response to this rejection, Applicant has amended independent claim 5 to include the limitations of allowable claim 7 and has further amended independent claim 9 to include the limitations of allowable claim 10. Claim 8 has been amended so that it depends on the allowable amended independent claim 5.

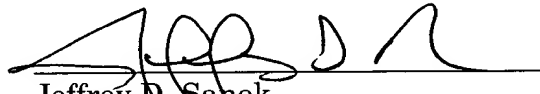
The specification was objected to with respect to lines 12 and 13 on page 4. In response to this objection, Applicant submits that the Reply filed on February 23, 2004 addressed this issue in compliance with the requirements of the Examiner in this Office Action. However, if any further issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's attorney to address this matter.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this application containing claims 5, 6, 8 and 9, including independent claims 5 and 9, be allowed and be passed to issue.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #080437.49166US).

Respectfully submitted,


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